

PASCALE VILLIERS LE MOY

# Inside the Trade France

## 19th & 20th Century Painting Guides

The Editions de L'Amateur (5 Rue Montholon, 75009, Paris) owned by Mr Boussac are the distributors for both French and English art books. They also publish reference books which reflect the state of the art market. The most important, published yearly is *Le Guide des Peintures*, (540 FF), which covers paintings from 1800 to the present day. It is written by Gerald Schurr who contributes to both *Connaissance des Arts* and *Gazette de l'Hotel Druot*. Only artists whose work has been sold at auction in the last year are mentioned. There are 4 000 names in the 1987 edition with 250 illustrations. As well as bio-

graphical and stylistic information the book lists where and when each work was sold. The series begun in 1979, therefore enables us to follow the fortunes of these painters over the years.

Another book also written by Gerald Schurr *Les Petits Maîtres du XIXe Siècle* (380 FF) is published every three years. This gives detailed information on lesser known 19th century painters and mentions relevant sales. It includes about 450 painters, mostly new names found in auction houses, provincial museums and local markets. The early volumes show that Mr Schurr has often pointed out the quality of many obscure painters which have since become well known. A third book, published

every two years is *La Côte des Peintres* by J. A. Akoun (150 FF). This is smaller and lighter and lists 20 000 artists of all periods and countries with an average price for their paintings.

## Paris Auction in Tokyo

Maitre Tajan, a partner in the leading French auction house, Ader Picard Tajan, sold the last part of the collection of glass belonging to the Daum family in October. The Daum family along with Gallé were the most famous glass makers in Nancy. The sale was linked to Tokyo by a satellite connection at the Eiffel Tower where buyers were able to bid. The sale (200 lots) totalled 18.6 million FF with world records for the vase à la Rose (3.150 000 FF) at

31 cm high this is about 10 000 FF per cm. The previous record for a Daum glass around 2 million FF was in 1984. Another vase fetched over 2.3 million FF and a third one 1.3 million FF. This auction has had an immediate impact on the price of Daum glass in the dealers shops.

## French Art and Antiques Directory

The *Guide Emer* is the most widely distributed European guide to the art market. It is published yearly in a convenient four volume form with headlines in French, German, English and Italian.

Dealers all over Europe plus restorers, shippers and auctioneers are listed.

The 1987 edition (newly published) is the 21st of its kind and is available through G. Gillingham, P.O. Box 958, NW2 London, or at 50 quai de l'Hôtel de Ville, 75004, Paris, 290 FF.

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